



State of California

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State Water Resources
Control Board

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Regional Water Quality
Control Board,
Central Valley Region

**Karl Longley ScD,
P.E., Chair**

Public Notice –
No Further
Action Status

Chico AAF – CON
HTRW

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Former Chico Army Airfield
Chico, CA**

Public Notice: The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) invites public comment on a request for regulatory closure, made on behalf of US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) for Area of Interest (AOI) 02 related to the formerly used defense site (FUDs) Chico Army Air Field, Chico, Butte County, CA (Site).

This Public Notice fact sheet provides general information on the Site. A map showing the location of the Site is attached (Figure A).

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: 1 December 2020 – 4 January 2021

CASE SUMMARY:

The Chico Airport was historically the Chico Army Airfield (AAF) until the late 1940's. AOI 02 was a former Underground Storage Tank (UST) that provided heating oil to Building T-364. Building T-364 was removed in 1951 and the UST was removed in 2009. During the UST removal, total petroleum hydrocarbons in the diesel range (TPH-D) were encountered beneath the former UST. The contaminant of concern is an aged, non-methyl tert-butyl ether containing diesel fuel with no significant aromatic or volatile fraction.

The soils around the UST were excavated and disposed at an approved landfill. Excavation was conducted to the extent practicable. A large tree, which the property owner would not allow to be removed, as well as property boundaries prevented a thorough excavation. The TPH-D containing soil that remained was sampled. The sample results were used in a human health risk assessment, which indicated the remaining hydrocarbons presented an incremental increased cancer risk of less than 1 in a million.

The Site meets seven of the eight general criteria of the State's Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Case Closure Policy (LTCP). The lateral extent of the TPH-D in soil was not fully defined by soil samples and therefore the criteria for a conceptual site model that assesses the nature, extent, and mobility of the release is not met. However, the human health risk assessment incorporated conservative assumptions, including extending the TPH-D impacts in soil to the property boundary. This is suspected to over-estimate the extent of contamination. As a result, the Site-specific risk assessment conservatively incorporates a Site conceptual model that assesses the nature, extent, and mobility of the release.

Central Valley Water Board staff agree with USACE request for project closeout of AOI 02 at the Chico AAF. USACE's request for Site closeout is now open to the public for comments and concerns for a period of 30 days.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Historical reports and the request for project closeout can be viewed by accessing the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker respective website at:

https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T0600736355

The case file for the Site is also available for review at the Central Valley Water Board office located at 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. To make an appointment for a file review, please call (916) 464-4651.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Any interested individual can learn more about the case by contacting Mr. Walter Floyd with the Central Valley Water Board or Carmen De Fazio with the USACE. Written comments regarding concerns or issues on the planned regulatory closure for the Site must be submitted to Walter Floyd at the Central Valley Water Board by **4 January 2021**.

Mr. Walter Floyd
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
(916) 464-4651
Walter.Floyd@waterboards.ca.gov

Carmen De Fazio
Project Manager
US Army Corps of Engineers
Sacramento District, CESP-K-PMM-B
1325 J Street, 12th Fl, #70
Sacramento CA 95814
Office: 916.557.6884
carmen.r.defazio@usace.army.mil



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Figure A
Site AOI 02 Location Map
Chico Airport, Chico, CA